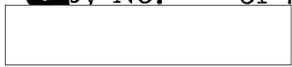


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USIB-D-41.13/18
(COMOR-D-13/31)
7 January 1965
Limited Distribution

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT : Report by Chairman on NRO Executive Committee Meeting

REFERENCES : a. USIB-D-41.14/213 (COMOR-D-13/29),
14 December 1964, Limited Distribution
b. USIB-D-41.14/214 (COMOR-D-13/30),
30 December 1964, Limited Distribution

1. In restricted session at the United States Intelligence Board (USIB) meeting on 6 January with the Deputy Director, National Reconnaissance Office (DD/NRO) present, the Chairman reported on a discussion at an NRO Executive Committee meeting the preceding day regarding a COMOR paper (reference a.) which the Board had referred to NRO for study (reference b.) dealing with the possibility of accomplishing some USIB objectives, especially high resolution in satellite photography.

2. As a result of this discussion, the DCI indicated it had been decided to ask COMOR, assisted by NPIC, to study in depth the meaning of higher resolution from the intelligence point of view, in order to provide a basis for determining how far we should go along that line in view of the very high cost of achieving higher resolution capabilities. He referred to certain statements in this respect which Dr. Fubini had made at the NRO Executive Committee meeting.

3. Mr. McCone said that, in addition to the question of the intelligence need for particular levels of higher resolution, there was also a question whether we need a high resolution search system as well as a



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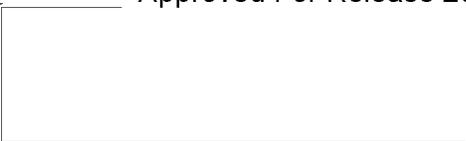
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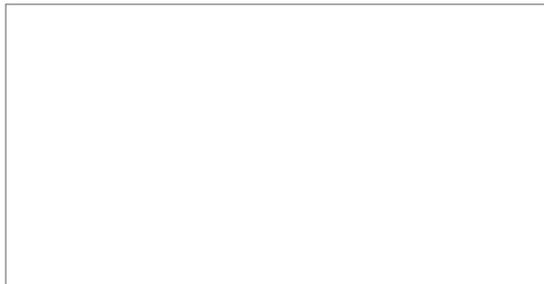
high resolution spotting capability. He commented that if one system could give adequate resolution to meet both types of intelligence requirements, there could be substantial savings in development expenditures as well as in operating costs each year. Because of an already high cost of the NRO program, the Chairman indicated that the NRO Executive Committee was considering a series of studies, of which the COMOR study would be a part, ultimately including a group of outside consultants.

4. USIB noted this report by the Chairman, including the request that COMOR, assisted by NPIC, study the meaning of and need for particular levels of higher resolution from the intelligence viewpoint, and that the DCI would keep the Board informed on a very confidential basis of further developments along this line.



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Executive Secretary



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